



STATEWIDE DATABASE LICENSES

WHAT IS IT: Buying annual subscriptions (licenses) to selected electronic resources. This will give all Rhode Islanders access to full-text magazine articles and to general research, health, job, and consumer information.

WHY DO IT: More cost effective than individual library subscriptions.

Available to every Rhode Island resident at home, at work, or through any school, public, academic or special library.

HOW TO DO IT: Negotiate statewide contracts with sellers for a broad spectrum of information databases.

VIRTUAL CATALOG INTERFACE

WHAT IS IT: A way to link all libraries in the state (school, public, academic and special) electronically, in a single database (catalog) of library collections.

WHY DO IT: Enables all library users to search the collections of all libraries in the state in one process.

HOW TO DO IT: Buy a server and software programs to link everyone's library catalogs.

DELIVERY MECHANISMS

WHAT IS IT: A statewide courier service that delivers books and other library materials to school, public, academic and special libraries.

WHY DO IT: Proven cost-effective resource sharing.

HOW TO DO IT: Negotiate contract with local courier service for expanded delivery service to all the state's libraries

MULTITYPE LINKS/NETWORKS

WHAT IS IT: New and expanded resource sharing. Includes universal access to existing Union List of Serials (newspapers, magazines and other periodicals) that academic and research libraries, hospital and health science libraries now maintain. Expands RILINK (school library network that now includes more than 20 schools).

WHY DO IT: Library users will be able to find needed periodicals of all types anywhere in the state; schoolchildren and teachers will be able to find needed materials from a larger group of Rhode Island schools.

HOW TO DO IT: Pay for statewide Union List of Serials (magazines, newspapers and other periodicals) and expansion of RILINK (electronic network linking school libraries).

STAFFING AND SUPPORT

WHAT IS IT: Negotiating and maintaining statewide licenses, expanding daily delivery service to all types of libraries, training library staff and the public to use electronic services, and responding to problems librarians may have when they use these new electronic mechanisms.

WHY DO IT: Allows smooth, uninterrupted information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for everyone.

HOW TO DO IT: Add staff capacity in the Office of Library and Information Services to support LINK RHODE ISLAND.